

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 01783 281407Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 SCCT-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /055 W

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R 281230Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2291

INFO USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1783

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER DIRECTOR INQUIRES POSSIBILITY
ASYLUM NETHERLANDS EMBASSY

1. NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR ADVISED EMBOFF MARCH 20 THAT
PROMINENT POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER AND DIRECTOR OF
INDEPENDENT WEEKLY EXPRESSO, DR. FRANCISCO BALSEMAO,
INQUIRED HALF SERIOUSLY FEB. 23, ONE DAY PREVIOUS TO BOMB DAMAGE
TO BALSEMAO'S AUTOMOBILE, ABOUT POSSIBILITIES ASYLUM DUTCH EMBASSY.
AMBASSADOR SAID SUBJECT OF ASYLUM CAME UP DURING PRIVATE LUCHEON
MEETING WITH BALSEMAO DURING WHICH BALSEMAO INDICATED SOME
KNOWLEDGE OF PLANS BEING MADE TO INTERFER IN ELECTIONS.

2. AMBASSADOR ADVISED BALSEMAO OF HIS UNFAMILIARITY OF RULES
ON SUBJECT EXCEPT IN HUMANITARIAN CASES OF EXTREME URGENCY AND
TOLD EMBOFF HE REQUESTED GUIDANCE FROM HOME OFFICE SHOULD
SITUATION COME UP. AMBASSADOR BELIEVES BALSEMAO HAD
FOREKNOWLEDGE MARCH 11 EVENTS.

3. COMMENT: DR. BALSEMAO, IS FIRST PORTUGUESE JOURNALIST KNOWN TO
EMBASSY TO HAVE INQUIRED ABOUT ASYLUM.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PINT, PO, NL, POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY, (BALSEMAO, FRANCISCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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